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December 28, 1993

Mr. William F. Caton, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554

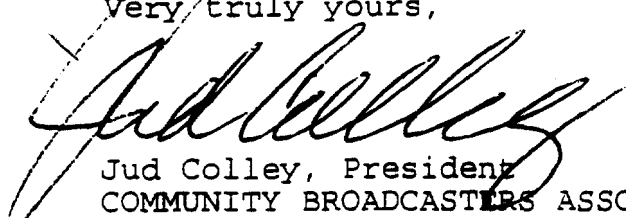
Re: Report of Ex Parte Communication  
MM Docket No. ~~87-268~~  
MM Docket No. 92-259  
MM Docket No. 93-114

93-114

Dear Mr. Caton

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(a)(2) of the Commission's Rules, submitted herewith are copies of ex parte written communications to Commission decision-making personnel concerning matters under consideration in the above-referenced docketed rule making proceedings.

Very truly yours,

  
Jud Colley, President  
COMMUNITY BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION

JC/kc

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December 28, 1993

Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St., N.W., Room 814  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am writing on behalf of the Community Broadcasters Association to welcome you as the head of our regulatory agency and to introduce you to the low power television industry (LPTV) which CBA represents. I hope to come to Washington in January or February and would like to have an opportunity to meet with you during that trip.

There are over 1,300 authorized LPTV stations -- almost as many as full-power stations. Although we have fewer economic resources and command less attention in Washington political circles than the full-power TV industry, our members are providing important over-the-air local programming to many small cities and towns and minority communities in larger cities that would otherwise be unserved by either the television or cable industries. In fact, Washington, D.C.'s two Spanish language television stations (Channels 42 and 48) are both LPTV stations.

LPTV is a secondary service in terms of spectrum occupancy but not in terms of service to the public. Yet it has been difficult for our small business enterprises to persuade Washington policy-makers to remember our needs. Our pictures arrive over the same airwaves and look the same on television receivers as those of full-power stations, yet we have been trying for two and one-half years to persuade the Commission to allow us to use the same four-letter call signs that full power stations use so that audience ratings services and advertising agencies can enter our stations into their computers. We have been ignored in the effort to create an advanced television table of frequency allotments, even though we have asked for nothing more than to have our channels used for ATV last rather than first. Congress left most of our stations out when it adopted must-carry legislation, so most of us must rely on leased channel access to get on cable; but the Commission's leased channel access rules permit cable operators to charge unconscionable rates, which they are quick to do when the lessee is a potential competitor for advertising sales.

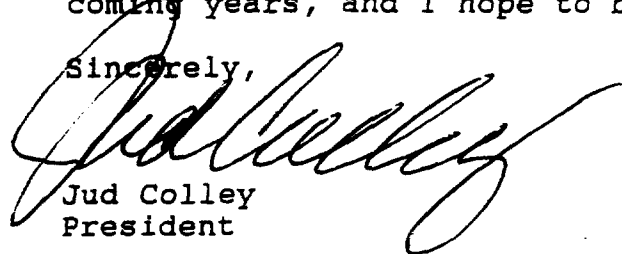


It is difficult to predict what will happen to the visual media in the coming years of national mega-mergers and 500-channel video delivery; but I am absolutely sure that there will always be a need for the localized community service that LPTV provides, and there is no indication that giant conglomerates are interested in providing that service.

CBA held its fifth annual convention, and its first in Washington, last month. Commissioner Quello was kind enough to be our keynote speaker. We plan to return to Washington in 1994 to put our industry better in touch with the Commission and Congress. Meanwhile, we hope that you will remember the service we are providing and will encourage policy-makers in your own agency and elsewhere in Washington to take our service into account in their decision-making.

We look forward to working with you and the Commission during the coming years, and I hope to be able to meet you soon.

Sincerely,



Jud Colley  
President

cc: The Honorable James Quello  
The Honorable Andrew Barrett  
The Honorable Ervin Duggan  
Secretary, for inclusion as es parte communication in  
MM Docket 87-268  
MM Docket 93-114  
MM Docket 92-259